



COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

THE HEALTH OF
SCHOOL CHILDREN
1970

SCHOOL HEALTH
SERVICE

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**Principal School Medical
Officer**

for the year 1970

I. D. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the activities of the School Health Service for 1970. The majority of the figures quoted in the Report do not call for special comment and indicate the maintenance of good average physical health amongst school children throughout the year. The organisation of the facilities was broadly unaltered although reference should be made to the commencement of a scheme of vaccination against german measles which was initiated in November. The response to the scheme which was offered to girls born between 1956 and 1958 was gratifying and 1015 girls were in fact vaccinated. This is another example of the value of primary protection not so much against the disease itself as its consequences which in this instance comprised the prevention of congenital abnormalities arising to babies born to mothers who have suffered from german measles during pregnancy.

As this is my final report prior to my appointment as Director of Social Services to this Authority, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all who have participated and co-operated in the work of the School Health Service over the past years; firstly, to the members of the Education Committee who have given their support and understanding on many occasions; to the Director of Education, his staff and the teaching staffs whose co-operation has always been forthcoming, and to medical colleagues in hospital and in general practice whose interest and help has been much appreciated. Finally to all the members of my own staff who have given excellent service during 1970 as in past years and particularly to Dr. Young who succeeds me and who has compiled this report I am much indebted.

I. D. LEITCH

Principal School Medical Officer

Health Department,
Stanhope Parade,
SOUTH SHIELDS,
NE33 4JA.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1970

THE MAYOR:

ALDERMAN W. NEWBY

CHAIRMAN:

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Councillor J. M. H. Raffle

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Councillor J. G. Woods

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer

I. D. LEITCH M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:

ENID M. YOUNG M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officers in Department:

JEAN WALMSLEY M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.

MIRA BHATIA M.B., B.S., (Res 17 5 70)

VERONICA LYNCH (Res 31 10 70)

VALERIE CALDER

GITIKA BANNERJEE (commenced 1 6 70)

Principal School Dental Officer:

T. W. CLARKSON B.D.S.

School Dental Officers:

J. P. BLUNT L.D.S.(sessional)

MOYA KENT B.D.S.

2 Dental Surgery Assistants

Anaesthetist (part time):

D.C.F. BANKS M.D., D.A.

Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse:

MISS E. MYCOCK S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N., H.V. (Cert) (res 23 1 70)

Acting Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse:

MRS. P. STEWART (from 26 1 70)

15 Health Visitors

7 School Nurses

1 State Enrolled Nurse

4 Clinic Assistants

2 Student Health Visitors

Speech Therapist:

MISS C. MARR LCST (res 12 6 70)

Child Guidance and School Psychological Service

Consultant Psychiatrist:

R. N. STANSFIELD M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Educational Psychologist:

I. R. McKENZIE B.Sc. (Psych) M.Ed., D.E.P.

Consultant Advisers:

Paediatrics:

MARGARET TAYLOR D.C.H., M.R.C.P.

Orthopaedics:

T. A. BERRY F.R.C.S.

Ophthalmology:

A. SMITH M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Ear Nose and Throat:

G. RHYS EVANS M.C., M.B., B.S., D.L.O.

Orthodontics:

D. T. BENNETT L.D.S., F.D.S., R.C.S., Cons Orthodontist

Oral Surgery:

R. KERR GILBERT L.R.C.P.I., & L.M., F.D.S., R.C.S.

Mental Subnormality:

I. A. FRASER M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H. Dup Psych

W. H. K. CARPENTER M.B., Ch.B.

Administration:

Senior Officer for Administration:

J. A. BREWIS D.M.A.

The following appointments were vacant at
the end of the Year:

2 Speech Therapists

Social Worker for Child Guidance Clinic

SCHOOL POPULATION

NUMBERS AND ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS AT
SCHOOLS MAINTAINED BY THE AUTHORITY
IN 1970

Type of School	Number of Schools	Number of Children on Register at end of 1970	Average Attendance for the year (%)
Primary -			
Infants.....	19	3,109	92.6
Juniors.....	18	5,862	95.4
Juniors and Infants...	6	1,222	92.5
Secondary -			
Modern.....	12	5,713	92.8
Grammar Technical.....	2	2,069	95.0
Special -			
Educationally Subnormal.....	1	89	83.0
Physically Handicapped	1	127	93.0
Other -			
Nursery Classes at Harton Infants School.	1	61	86.0

SCHOOL CLINICS

Minor Ailments Clinic	Stanhope Parade Clinic	9.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m. Monday - Friday
	Boldon Lane Clinic	9.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m. Monday - Friday
Dental Clinics	Stanhope Parade Clinic	9.00 a.m. - 12.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Monday - Friday
	Boldon Lane Clinic	9.00 a.m. - 12.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Monday - Friday
Speech Therapy Clinics	Stanhope Parade Clinic	9.00 a.m. - 12 Noon 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday
	Boldon Lane Clinic	9.00 a.m. - 12 Noon 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Tuesday
Child Guidance Clinic	Cleadon Park School	Monday - by appt. only
	Stanhope Parade	Thursday afternoon and evening, Friday morning and afternoon by appoint- ment only
Hearing Assessment Clinic	Stanhope Parade Clinic	By appt. only
Refraction Clinic	Stanhope Parade Clinic	By appt. only
Immunisation Clinic	As and when required	

MEDICAL INSPECTION

The organisation of the School Health Service remained unchanged throughout 1970, each medical officer having duties in the schools and maternity and child welfare clinics in a given area of the town, although shortage of medical staff necessitated the doctors moving out of their given areas on occasions.

Routine medical inspections of children in the usual three age groups continued throughout the year, the percentage of parents attending the medical examination remained high in the infant and junior groups.

Special arrangements whereby a medical officer and a school nurse made weekly visits to the Boys Grammar Technical School continued during the year.

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

	Number of Children Inspected	Number of Parents Present	%
Entrants.....	1,620	1,401	86.48
Other periodic Inspections..	1,793	1,580	88.12
Leavers.....	1,495	437	29.23
	4,908	3,418	69.64

OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections.....	780
Number of Re-Inspections.....	665
Total	<u>1,445</u>

MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS

The following examinations were carried out for special purposes.

Camping Holidays.....	235
WRVS Holiday Scheme.....	14
Prior to return to residential school.....	137
Teacher and Teaching Candidates.....	106
Children to be boarded out.....	104
Other examinations.....	<u>4</u>
	<u>600</u>

Out of School Employment.

A total of 115 children were examined in accordance with the Local Byelaws and given the necessary certificate.

General Condition of Children Inspected.

Of the 4,908 children examined, the school doctors assessed 16(0.3%) as being in unsatisfactory physical condition.

AVERAGE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN 1970

Age in Years	No. of Children		Height (in inches)		Weight (in lbs.)	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants - 5 - 6	728	684	45.54	43.73	44.39	43.32
Others - 10 - 11	760	679	54.01	55.46	74.61	75.41
Leavers - 14 - 15	875	572	61.50	60.53	111.76	109.81

For comparison purposes the figures for children examined in 1960 are shown in the following table:-

AVERAGE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN 1960

Age in Years	No. of Children		Height (in inches)		Weight (in lbs.)	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
5 - 6	640	559	44.24	43.72	46.58	43.12
10 - 11	817	870	54.75	54.16	74.23	75.53
14 - 15	488	590	61.45	61.70	112.51	112.12

Defects found at Periodic Medical Inspections

Table A Part II, page 28 gives details of the defects (excluding dental disease and infestation with vermin) found at medical inspection during the year for each group of children examined. By far the most common defects found were those related to the eyes (131 per 1,000 children examined) followed by defects of the ear, nose and throat (118 per 1,000 children examined) and orthopaedic defect (102 per 1,000 children examined).

Pupils found to require treatment at Periodic Medical Inspection. Table A (2) page 29 shows that 15.7 per cent of the children examined were considered to require treatment.

Cleanliness of School Children

Nurses continued to visit schools twice yearly to examine pupils for infestation with vermin. The number of pupils found to be infested was 638 (3.4%) as compared with 667 (3.6%) in 1969.

MEDICAL TREATMENT AND SPECIAL CLINICS

MINOR AILMENT CLINIC

Daily minor ailment sessions were held at the Stanhope Parade and Boldon Lane Clinics.

Treatments were confined to simple medicaments and pupils requiring further attention were referred to their family doctors or the hospital services.

A total of 780 pupils attended for treatment, of whom, 107 were referred to general practitioners or the appropriate consultant. There were 665 return visits and of the total 4,815 attendances 3,192 were of such minor degree as to be treated throughout by the school nurse.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

The school chiropody service introduced in 1968 had its first full year of operation and 814 school children made 3,206 attendances at the clinic. I am again indebted to the Orthopaedic Consultant and his staff at the South Shields General Hospital for their co-operation in giving advice and guidance in certain cases referred from the chiropodist.

OTOLOGICAL SERVICES

The comprehensive scheme to provide for the ascertainment and assessment of children with impaired hearing continued during the year and the monthly audiology clinic under the supervision of Mr. G. Rhys Evans, the Consultant Otologist, was maintained.

AUDIOMETRY AND ROUTINE HEARING TESTS

1. *Pre-School Arrangements.*

The health visitors carried out screening tests for deafness in young children and although it has not been possible to test every child during the first year of life, the main effort was concentrated on those children known to be 'at risk' of developing hearing defects.

2. *Routine Sweep Testing.*

All new entrants to infants' school are given a routine pure tone audiometric sweep test by a nurse specially trained in audiometric techniques. In 1970 a total of 2,072 children were tested in this way, of whom 219 were considered in need of further investigation and were referred to the Hearing Assessment Clinic.

Home visits were made to 45 children to give parents guidance on the care and supervision of children with defective hearing and to assist in the supervision and adjustment of hearing aids. Seven children were provided with hearing aids.

HEARING ASSESSMENT CLINIC

The Statistics for 1970 are as follows:	1969	1970
Total number of attendances.....	545	663
Boys.....	314	344
Girls.....	229	319
Adults		
Males.....	1	-
Females.....	1	-
Referred by		
School Medical Officer.....	90	115
E.N.T. Consultant.....	4	7
Others.....	88	75
General Practitioners.....	24	19
Audiometrician - routine sweep testing.....	114	155
Re-assessments.....	225	292
Number found to have defective hearing.....	248	309
Referred to Audiology Clinic for		
consultant opinion.....	109	146
Speech Therapist.....	5	3
Hospital.....	45	57

AUDIOLOGY CLINIC

Mr. Rhys Evans

	1970	1969	1968
No. of children seen.....	125	102	89
New cases.....	76	53	52
No. of children reviewed.....	49	49	37
Referred for surgical treatment.....	63	46	42

	1970	1969	1968
Classified Treatments.....			
Tonsils and adenoids.....	14	12	5
Adenoids.....	21		1
Grommetts drain.....	5	4	
Adenoids and myringotomy.....	10	19	18
Myringotomy.....	10	10	13
Aural polypectomy.....	2	2	2
Antral lavage.....	1	2	3
Observation and further investigation.....	49	33	13
Advised.....	5	8	25
Hearing Aids prescribed.....	5	9	5
Children recommended for partially hearing unit.....	2		
Hearing aids discontinued.....	1		2
Mastoidectomy.....		1	
New Ear mould.....		2	1
Nerve deafness.....			1

OPHTHALMIC SERVICES

Consultant Service

During 1970, 18 children were referred by the school medical officer for the opinion of the ophthalmologist. These children were seen by Mr. A. Smith and his staff at the Diagnostic Centre, South Shields General Hospital.

There were ten cases of squint from which eight had glasses prescribed and treatment was arranged for the remaining two. There were eight children who showed no evidence of squint and were under observation.

Refraction Clinic

Of the 4,908 children seen at periodic medical inspections, 134 required attention for visual defects. Of these, 76 were examined at the Stanhope Parade Clinic and 52 had spectacles prescribed. The routine screening of visual acuity is now carried out by the school nurses who use a Keystone vision screener in most schools. The opticians saw 304 children and prescribed glasses in 265 cases.

This includes children referred in previous years who attended for a re-test.

The incidence of visual defects and their treatment for the past three years is given below:

	1968	1969	1970
Children seen at periodical medical inspection.....	4,668	5,144	4,908
Found to require treatment for visual defects.....	298	273	134
Of the above:			
examined at the Stanhope Parade Clinic...	70	54	76
seen by opticians.....	389	334	304
Other cases.....	890	1,261	1,270

Sanction for the repair of spectacles was made by the school medical officers in 486 cases on Form OSC 10. The Education Authority accepted liability in 104 cases, at a cost of £131 6s.6d.

ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE

Children with orthopaedic and postural defects are referred to the local hospital where facilities for consultations, surgical procedures and physiotherapy are readily available.

This arrangement has worked satisfactorily for a number of years and whilst I would normally record our gratitude to Mr. T. A. Berry, Consultant Orthopaedic surgeon for his co-operation in 1970 and earlier years, it is with great regret I have to refer to his untimely death in 1971. This is a sad loss to the service and to the community. During the year, eight children were referred to the orthopaedic department - two for foot deformities and six for other defects. All of these children were treated and there were no cases waiting at the end of the year.

PAEDIATRIC SERVICES

The close liaison existing between the school health service and the paediatric department of the local hospital was maintained throughout the year. Dr. M. Taylor, Consultant Paediatrician, has always been most helpful in giving the benefit of her experience and advice to the school medical service and we are greatly indebted to her.

Hospital Treatment

During 1970, the department was notified of the discharge from hospital of 731 children, 276 of these being under five

years of age. Of the total, 233 were admitted for treatment for ear, nose and throat defects (18 under five years): 155 were treated for fractures and other results of accidents, including 44 cases of accidental poisoning (31 under five years): 57 were treated for respiratory infections (39 under five years)

Arrangements for Special Tuition in Hospital and at Home

In accordance with the provisions of Section 56 of the Education Act 1944, arrangements were continued during the year for tuition of children who were long term patients in hospital or who were unable to attend school for long periods owing to illness. The number of children receiving tuition in hospital during the year was seven and two children also received home tuition.

SKIN CLINIC

Following the reorganisation of the school clinics in 1968, the skin clinic, as such, was discontinued and the cases were absorbed into normal clinic sessions. Warts and verrucae previously dealt with in these clinics are now treated by the school chiropody service. Scabies still continues to give rise to concern. There were 271 cases treated as compared with 288 in 1969.

OVERWEIGHT CLINIC

Boldon Lane Clinic

Children	37
Attendances	258

Stanhope Parade Clinic

Children	29
Attendances	66

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

Report of the Principal School Dental Officer (Mr. T. W. Clarkson).

There were no staff changes in 1970 and very little change

in the pattern of work done. Emergency extractions stayed at the previous year's high level, mainly due to the non-acceptance of dental treatment after school inspections.

Of the school inspections, most of which were done in the primary schools, 2,000 more children were found to require treatment than in 1969. The number of general anaesthetics remained very high and would appear to be the method of choice for extraction of teeth. A number of these anaesthetics continued to be given by the Medical Officer of Health and his Deputy, always in cases of emergency.

Toothbrush kits have been given to all the children when they started school and the opportunity was taken of inviting the parents to the schools and giving them a short talk on dental health and oral hygiene.

The two dentists attended a series of six evening lectures on General Dentistry held at Durham and Mrs. Kent attended a series of lectures on Children's Dentistry at Sunderland.

Mr. D. T. Bennett, a consultant orthodontist at Newcastle Dental Hospital, continued his monthly visits to the clinic at Stanhope Parade. His advice is greatly appreciated and there are a great number of patients whose overcrowding problems have been solved by extractions carried out at the right time.

INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

Cases of infectious disease notified to the Health and Welfare Department as occurring among school children are given in the following table.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE IN SCHOOL CHILDREN 1970

Disease	Number of Cases Reported		
	Primary School	Secondary School	Total
Scarlet Fever.....	14	-	14
Whooping Cough.....	17	4	21
Measles.....	325	5	330
Tuberculosis...			
Pulmonary.....	-	1	1
Non-pulmonary.....	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice.....	8	-	8
Dysentery.....	9	1	10
Encephalitis.....	1	-	1

MEASLES

Most of the 330 cases were notified in the third and fourth quarters of the year.

SCARLET FEVER

A total of 14 cases were notified during the year. All the cases attended primary school and were of a mild type.

INFECTIVE JAUNDICE

Eight cases were notified during the year.

DYSENTERY

Nine cases were reported of children who attended primary school and four cases were confirmed. One case attending a secondary school was also confirmed.

ENCEPHALITIS

One case was notified, a post measles complication.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year, one child was notified as having respiratory tuberculosis. The following tables indicate the present position, as compared with previous years.

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS

Age Group	1970		1969	
	Respiratory		Respiratory	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
5 - 9 years	-	-	-	1
10 - 14 years	1	-	3	-
TOTAL	1		4	

Age Group	Non-Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
5 - 9 years	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-		-	

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS OF CHILDREN (5 to 14)

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Notification	Deaths	Notification	Deaths
1921-25	62	17	62	14
1926-30	49	13	71	14
1931-35	35	11	65	16
1936-40	21	3	40	6
1941-45	25	2	30	5
1946-50	27	1	15	3
1951-55	27	-	7	-
1956-60	12	-	2	-
1961-65	61	-	5	-
1966	3	-	-	-
1967	2	-	2	-
1968	1	-	-	-
1969	4	-	-	-
1970	1	-	-	-

TUBERCULIN TESTING OF SCHOOL ENTRANTS

The routine programme of tuberculin testing of school entrants by means of the Heaf Test was carried out during the year. A total of 1,499 children were tested, 1,264 were negative and 166 had a positive reaction. Of the positive reactors, 129 had previously been given BCG and the number of natural conversions was therefore 37. This gives an incidence of new positive reaction as 2.8%. All positive reactors were referred to the Chest Clinic at the Diagnostic Centre for further investigation. No cases of tuberculosis were notified from this group.

EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL

The following rules for the exclusion of school children who are cases or contacts of infectious disease were revised in 1970. They are based on Department of Education and Science and Department of Health and Social Security recommendations.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS

EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease	Usual Incubation Period days	Minimal Period of Exclusion from School.	
		Patients	Contacts
Whooping Cough	7-10	21 days from beginning of the characteristic cough.	None
Measles	10-15	7 days after the appearance of the rash if the child appears well.	None
German Measles	14-21	4 days from the appearance of the rash.	None.
Mumps	12 - 26	Until swelling has subsided.	None.
Chickenpox	11-21	6 days from the date of the appearance of the rash.	None.
Streptococcal Infection.	2-5	Until appropriate treatment has been given.	Children—no exclusion. Persons engaged in handling of food—until certified by Medical Officer of Health as free to return to duties.
Diphtheria	2-5	Until bacteriological examination is clear.	Until bacteriological examination is clear.
Acute Polio-myelitis	3 - 21	Until clinical recovery.	A minimum period of 3 weeks.
Meningococcal Meningitis	2-10	Until clinical recovery and bacteriological examination is clear.	None
Dysentery	1-7	Until declared free from infection by Medical Officer of Health	Children—no exclusion if bacteriological investigation is negative. Persons engaged in handling of food until certified by Medical Officer of Health as free to return to duties.
Infective Jaundice.	15 - 50	7 days from onset of jaundice.	None.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Efforts to maintain high levels of protection against communicable diseases were maintained during 1970. Particular emphasis was placed on the primary courses or booster injections of diphtheria and tetanus at school entry. Programmes for protection against tetanus of all school children and the maintenance of high levels of protection against poliomyelitis were effectively pursued.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

During the year, 68 children of school age received primary vaccination and 27 pupils were re-vaccinated.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

During the year 49 children of school age received primary vaccination and 301 pupils were given a fourth reinforcing dose of vaccine.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Every effort continued to be made at pre-school and school entry medical examinations to check the immunisation state of each child and to ensure that appropriate primary or booster injections were given. In most cases, combined diphtheria-tetanus antigen was used.

The number of school children immunised against diphtheria either singly or in combination with other antigens, was as follows:

Primary course	35
Reinforcing doses	312

It is estimated that 72% of children aged 5 - 9 years have completed a course of immunisation against diphtheria in the last five years.

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

During 1970, the programme of tetanus immunisation for school children was continued. Protection was offered to children aged 10 - 11 years and in addition, a large number of school leavers were offered immunisation against this important disease. Primary and reinforcing immunisation was also offered as in

previous years to school entrants. The number of school children immunised against tetanus either singly or in combination with other antigens was as follows:

Primary course	759
Reinforcing doses	1294

BCG VACCINATION

In accordance with the policy of previous years, BCG vaccination was offered to children during their first year in senior schools.

No. of children offered tuberculin testing and BCG vaccination	1,947
No. of consents received.....	1,763
Percentage of consents.....	90.65%
Number who had previously had BCG	190
Number tuberculin tested.....	1,631
Number found to be positive (excluding those already vaccinated with BCG).....	100
Percentage of children found to be positive (excluding those already vaccinated with BCG).....	7.4%
Number vaccinated with BCG.....	1,255
Number x-rayed by mass x-ray.....	100
Number requiring further investigation after mass x-ray.....	-
Number found to be tuberculous.....	-

All positive reactors were followed up by a health visitor or school nurse and full details of all positive reactors were notified to the family doctor.

VACCINATION AGAINST MEASLES

During 1970, 74 school children were vaccinated against measles.

VACCINATION AGAINST GERMAN MEASLES

Commencing in November 1970 senior girls born between 1 September 1956 and 31 March 1958 were offered protection. 1015 girls were vaccinated.

SCHOOL NURSES AND HEALTH VISITORS

The routine work of the School Health Service has continued to be carried out by the school nurses rather than by health visitors and summary of their work is set out in the following table.

1. Visits to Schools

(a) Routine medical inspection.....	306
(b) Vision testing.....	316
(c) Cleanliness survey.....	628
(d) Heaf Testing.....	87

2. Home Visits..... 250

3. Clinic Sessions

(a) Minor ailments.....	583
(b) Immunisation.....	49
(c) Superannuation Medical Examination...	46
(d) Cytology.....	5
(e) Eye Clinic.....	22
(f) Others.....	131

The general policy of allocating to the School Nurses certain duties outside the School Health Service in addition to their routine work continued during 1970. This allows the school nurse to obtain wider experience in the Health and Welfare Department and also allows more flexibility in the use of the local authority nursing service.

During 1970 the keystone Vision Screener was used extensively in the schools by all the school nursing staff.

NURSERY CLASSES

This service is so popular that there is obviously a need for more nursery school provision. It is therefore satisfying to note that a nursery school is to be provided under the Government Urban Development Programme. There were 61 children in nursery classes, attending half days at Harton Infant School. The average attendance for the year was 86%. Seasonable ailments were the main reasons for absence. There were no serious epidemics and the health of the children was good.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

The following is a list of categories of handicapped children giving details of educational placements and other arrangements for 1970.

1. Blind and Partially Sighted Children

There were four blind and six partially sighted children notified in the town.

At the end of the year one blind boy attended Camphill Rudolf Steiner School, Aberdeenshire and one partially sighted

boy attended Derby School for Partially Sighted, Fulwood. One girl attended Royal Victoria School for the blind, Newcastle. There were three children, one partially sighted and two blind, awaiting admission to residential special schools.

At the end of the year four partially sighted children were attending the Cleadon Park Open Air School.

2. Deaf and Partially Hearing Children

Thirteen children attended the Northern Counties School for the deaf, Newcastle upon Tyne, six are fully residential and the remainder day pupils. Three children with partial hearing attended the Partial Hearing Unit at Fatfield County Primary School, Durham. One partially hearing boy attended Leam County Secondary School, Felling.

3. Physically Handicapped and Delicate Children

A. Cerebral Palsy.

Four children attended the Percy Hedley School, Newcastle. Three attended Irton Hall School, Cumberland and one child received home tuition.

B. Other Categories

Epileptic - one boy attending Sedgwick House School, Near Kendal.

Bronchitis - one boy attending Windlestone Hall School, Ferryhill.

Spina Bifida - one girl attending Burton Hill House School, Malmesbury.

Mongol - two boys in hospital.

Muscular Dystrophy - one boy receiving home tuition.

Lumbar Scoliosis - one boy receiving home tuition.

Cleadon Park Special Day School

This is a day school for physically handicapped and delicate children and has accommodation for 150 children of all ages. At the end of the year 89 children 60 boys and 29 girls, were attending. There were 12 new admissions and 17 children left to

return to ordinary school to continue their education. The children's physical disabilities are classified as follows:

Delicate.....	40
Respiratory Disease:	
Bronchitis, asthma.....	21
Congenital Malformations (excluding Congenital Heart Disease):	
Hydrocephalus.....	1
Talipes.....	1
Spina Bifida.....	1
	<u>3</u>
Heart Disease:	
Congenital.....	6
Other.....	-
	<u>6</u>
Epilepsy:	
Grand Mal.....	2
Petit Mal.....	1
	<u>3</u>
Other Conditions:	
Partially sighted.....	4
Spastic.....	3
Maladjusted.....	1
Gargoylism.....	1
Primary Complex.....	1
Hemiplegia.....	1
Pyelonephritis.....	1
Renal damage.....	1
Osteitis.....	1
Congenital Deformity of leg.....	1
Spinal defect.....	1
	<u>16</u>
Total	<u>89</u>

The special class for severely handicapped and retarded children which was formed during 1964, continued and again proved extremely successful, particularly for those children with reading difficulties.

The average attendance for the year was 93.0% which can be considered a very good figure for this type of school.

4. Educationally Sub-Normal

(a) Ascertainment

During the year 116 children were referred by head teachers or from other sources as being educationally retarded. They were examined by an approved school medical officer and the following

recommendations were made:

	Boys	Girls	Total
To return to ordinary school.....	1	-	1
Transfer to ESN School (Day).....	16	8	24
Transfer to ESN School (Residential)...	12	4	16
Recommended for Remedial Teaching.....	16	7	23
Decision Deferred.....	3	2	5
To remain at present school.....	14	3	17
Unsuitable for education at school.	8	6	14
To remain at ESN School.....	2	1	3
Recommended for hospital tuition...	-	-	-
To remain at Junior Training Centre	1	-	1
For Cleadon Park Open Air School...	11	1	12
	84	32	116

(b) Placement of Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils

The following educationally subnormal children in the town are attending school as shown:

At Special Day School for the Educationally Subnormal	128
At Residential School.....	13
Awaiting Placement.....	3
Unfit for School.....	-

(c) Margaret Sutton Special Day School for Educationally Subnormal Children

This school has accommodation for 120 children and during 1970, there were 128 pupils on the roll 87 boys and 41 girls. There were 18 new admissions (11 boys and 7 girls) and 21 children were discharged or left the school. Of those children leaving 18 were found employment and three were unemployed. The average attendance for the year was 93%.

5. Maladjusted Children

During the year 17 children were ascertained as maladjusted and were placed as follows:-

- One child Rocklands School, Chudleigh, Devon.
- One child Pittsburgh House, Stoke-on-Trent.
- One child St. Peter's Boarding School, near Wakefield.
- Three children Feversham School, Walbottle.

Two children St. Thomas More's RC School, East Allington,
South Devon.

One Child Cotswold Chine Home School, near Stroud.

Three children were awaiting admission to residential
school.

One child Cleadon Park Open Air School.

Four children Corsbie Hall School Thornton Fife.

CAREERS SERVICE AND THE PLACEMENT OF HANDICAPPED YOUNG PEOPLE

I am indebted to the manager of the local employment
exchange of the Department of Employment for the following report:

Placing of Handicapped Young People in 1970.

As in previous years, the task of finding suitable
employment for handicapped young people has not been an easy one.
One encouraging point however has been the appointment of a
second Disablement Resettlement Officer in the area with special
responsibility for handicapped young people. Regular discussions
have taken place between the Careers Officers and the DRO and
positive results have been achieved.

From the following table it is noticeable that comparatively
little difficulty has been experienced in finding suitable
employment for Educationally Sub-Normal school leavers, the
majority of the girls having been absorbed into factory work
while many of the boys have entered the timber yards.

Much more difficulty has been experienced in placing the
physically handicapped leavers, and those ESN children with
secondary disabilities.

During the year an ESN boy who was proving difficult to
place was referred to Felling Industrial Rehabilitation Unit
for a six week course of assessment. A report on his capabilities
and limitations was sent to the Careers Office, and following a
special approach to a local employer the boy was subsequently
placed in employment. Another highlight was the case of a
severely deaf boy who was found employment as a clerk in the
Civil Service.

In October and November the Specialist Careers Officer for Handicapped School Leavers attended a course arranged by Teesside Education Authority. Further courses are to be arranged.

The following table shows the position of leavers from the two Special Schools in the town:-

	Margaret Sutton School		Cleadon Park Open-Air School		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Eligible to leave during 1970.....	11	10	5	3	29
Entered long term employment.....	9	9	3	2	23
Entered short term employment.....	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployed.....	2	1	2	1	6
Sick.....	-	-	-	-	-

It should be noted that the above figures relate to pupils who actually left the two special schools at the normal leaving time and who were dealt with by the Youth Employment Service. Each year pupils from both schools are transferred to Secondary Modern Schools, Residential Schools, Occupational Centres, etc. and would not therefore be included in the figures above.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE

Mr. I. R. McKenzie, Educational Psychologist, reports as follows:

This service deals with educational and behavioural problems in schools and it is also concerned with the social adjustment of children in the school setting. The service is closely linked with the child guidance clinic and cases may be transferred from one service to the other.

During 1970, 121 children were seen in the school psychological service. These children were referred from numerous sources, probation officers, school welfare officers, youth employment officers, social workers from the Children's Department, social workers from voluntary organisations and, of course, the head teachers and their staff. There were also

several referrals from health visitors and general practitioners. A further 323 children were given remedial teaching under the direction of the Educational Psychologist and the 20 part-time teachers employed in the service. The age range of these children was from 8 years to 15 years and most children attended for one hour per week. Some use was also made of the Thursday evening Child Guidance Clinic session to interview parents and to continue remedial work with young people who had left school and were working.

The service has also assisted several students from colleges and universities by giving insight and practical experience of various aspects of the work. Although not strictly within its province the School Psychological Service also organised and supervised extra help given to five immigrant children.

CHILD AND FAMILY GUIDANCE CLINIC

I am indebted to Dr. R. N. Stansfield for the following report on the work of the clinic during 1970:

The clinic has four sessions, one of these is an evening one which is very valuable to see parents who cannot come to the day time sessions.

During the year there were 117 new cases and these are classified as follows:

Behaviour disorders.....	53
Psychosomatic disorders.....	43
Reports to courts and children's Departments, etc.	21

Follow-up therapy for 598 cases, together with insightful advice for the parents, was carried out. There are also correlative discussions on cases and problems with other officers of the social services, more particularly the child care officers and health visitors.

I would like especially to thank the child care officers, the school heads and teachers for their help and understanding, interest and co-operation; Mr. McKenzie for his enthusiasm and interest and the health visitors for their rota of attachments to the clinic and their valuable help with the backgrounds of so many cases.

CLINIC FOR MENTALLY SUBNORMAL

In March 1969 Dr. W. H. K. Carpenter, Consultant Psychiatrist at Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital became responsible for this clinic, it was subsequently transferred to the Diagnostic Centre, South Shields General Hospital and the clinic held fortnightly. The close co-operation which has existed for many years between the Health and Welfare Department and Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, was not jeopardised by this move as members of the social work staff continued to attend this clinic.

During the year 31 children of school age were seen at this clinic. We are indebted to Dr. Carpenter for his kind assistance during the year.

DEATHS AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN

Four children of school age died during 1970. The following table gives the causes of death:

Causes of Death	Boys		Girls		Total
	5 - 9	10-14	5 - 9	10-14	
Leukaemia.....	-	-	1	-	1
Other Accidents.....	-	-	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	-	-	2
	1	1	2	-	4

The average annual deaths amongst school children and pre-school children since 1901 are shown in the following table.

Quinquennium	Under 1 Year	1 - 4 Years	5 - 14 Years	Average Annual Deaths
1901 - 5	539	302	101	942
1906 - 10	455	266	82	803
1911 - 15	440	268	94	802
1916 - 20	388	251	136	775
1921 - 25	318	202	92	612
1926 - 30	240	146	88	474
1931 - 35	186	100	72	358
1936 - 40	136	59	53	248
1941 - 45	127	38	36	200
1946 - 50	105	23	15	143
1951 - 55	68	12	8	88
1956 - 60	46	6	6	58
1961 - 65	41	7	5	48
1966 - 70	34	4	5	43

HEALTH EDUCATION

During 1970, the health education programme in the schools followed the pattern of previous years.

The aim was to provide a comprehensive programme of health education to cover the school child from his or her entry into the senior school until school leaving age. The programme was discussed with interested members of staff and modified to meet the requirements of the individual schools and covered general health topics as well as hazards of smoking, venereal disease, sex education, infant care and personal hygiene. A total of seven senior schools received health education talks. The Child Care Course as prescribed by the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare was held at Westoe Senior Girls' School, Cleadon Park and Redwell Senior Schools and towards the end of the year requests were received from Dean Road, Baring Street and Stanhope Secondary Modern School to participate in this course.

APPENDIX I.

The Report of the Organiser of Physical Education for 1970

The pattern of physical education in the schools changed little during the year with one noteworthy exception which was the introduction of the sport of track cycling for schoolboys. Excellent facilities for this sport were available at Gypsies Green Stadium and the Education Authority provided the necessary track cycles. A schools Track Cycling Club was formed, all secondary schools being given the opportunity to nominate interested pupils, and on two evenings each week during the Summer and Autumn months the club members met at Gypsies Green Stadium for coaching and practise, tuition being given by a qualified coach of the British Cycling Federation. This new venture had a very successful first season and several boys made considerable progress, one boy achieving outstanding success in his first year of competition by being selected to compete in two national championship events - the National Schoolboys Under 16 Years Cycling Championships, and the British Cycling Federation 1,500 metres Schoolboys National Pursuit Championship. This latter event was held at Gypsies Green Stadium in the South Shields Sports Week Athletic and Cycling Meeting and the boy concerned put up a very good performance to take second place.

The Schools Football Association had another very successful season. The record entry of the previous year of 76 teams playing in 8 divisions was maintained but in addition yet another town team - an under 13's team - was formed, making 5 representative teams for the season. This means that on any normal Saturday morning over 800 boys were taking part in competitive football.

The Schools Cricket Association was favoured by a fine Summer and all fixtures were completed. Two boys were selected to play for the Durham County side, and in co-operation with the South Shields Cricket Club, a coaching scheme for selected boys was inaugurated.

Table-tennis is now being played in some junior schools and an outstanding success was achieved by a team of four boys from a junior school who reached the National Finals of the English Schools Under 11 Team Championship.

The scheme for the opening of certain school playgrounds and playing fields during the school Summer holidays introduced by the Education Committee in 1969 was extended in 1970, facilities being provided at nine centres. In addition, dual use of school playing fields was extended by the use of football pitches at three schools being granted for week-end play by adult league clubs.

SWIMMING CERTIFICATES 1970

EDUCATION AUTHORITY CERTIFICATES

Honours.....	23
1st Class.....	524
2nd Class.....	727
½ mile.....	815
¼ mile.....	889
100 yards.....	1,136
25 yards.....	1,573
	5,687

AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Personal Survival - Bronze.....	734
Personal Survival - Silver.....	454
Personal Survival - Gold.....	333
	1,521

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY AWARDS

Bronze Medallion.....	95
Bronze Cross.....	27
Award of Merit.....	19
Preliminary Safety Award.....	19
Advanced Safety Award.....	122
Teachers Certificate.....	8
	290

APPENDIX II.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

During 1970 a total of 1,029,883 meals was supplied to school children. This figure showed a decrease of 20,767 on the previous year. Of the meals supplied, 367,105 were free of charge. The number of children entitled to receive a free meal in December, 1970, was 2,400 - 12.97% of the school population. The average daily number of free and paid meals consumed was 5,281 - 28% of the school population.

Establishments

The number of school meals establishments in operation at the end of December was as follows:-

3 Central Kitchens
23 Kitchen/Dining Rooms
19 Dining Rooms and Dining Centres

A daily average of 1,986 container meals were despatched to the 19 dining rooms and dining centres in the town and 3,295 meals were served at Kitchen/Dining Rooms.

Cafeteria Service

In October a new Dining Centre was opened at the Grammar-Technical School for Boys which offers senior pupils wishing to stay for school meals a choice of menu served in cafeteria style.

Family Service

The introduction of family service for the serving of meals to children has been extended during 1970 and, the total number of dining rooms providing this service is now 19.

Milk in Schools

Approximately 9,500 children were supplied with free milk during 1970. Some 1,899,452 third-pint bottles were consumed, i.e. 79,144 gallons of milk at a total cost of £28,277 19. 8d.

APPENDIX III

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1970.

Part I.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
AND SECONDARY SCHOOL (INCLUDING NURSERY AND SPECIAL
SCHOOLS)

TABLE A - PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age groups inspected (by year) of Birth	No. of Pupils	PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF PUPILS Inspected	
		Satisfactory No.	Unsatisfactory No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1966 and later	43	43	-
1965	548	546	2
1964	1,044	1,040	4
1963	3	3	-
1962	8	8	-
1961	13	13	-
1960	27	27	-
1959	1,154	1,149	5
1958	526	523	3
1957	19	19	-
1956	782	781	1
1955 and earlier	741	740	1
TOTAL	4,908	4,892	16

Percentage of total found

(a) Satisfactory 99.67%
(b) Unsatisfactory 0.33%

PART II

DEFECTS FOUND AT MEDICAL INSPECTION

TABLE A - PERIODIC INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No	Defect or Disease (2)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS									
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total		Requiring observation	Requiring observation
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring observation	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation		
(1)	(2)										
4	Skin	28	116	46	87	50	123	124	123	326	
5	Eyes (a) Vision	44	67	102	205	147	185	293	185	457	
	(b) Squint	6	19	3	7	-	21	9	21	47	
	(c) Other	4	14	3	16	9	49	16	49	79	
6	Ears (a) Hearing	23	29	12	4	20	19	55	19	52	
	(b) Otitis Media	2	17	3	3	2	8	7	8	28	
	(c) Other	2	17	1	4	2	13	5	13	34	
7	Nose and Throat	13	219	10	26	10	131	33	131	376	
8	Speech	14	56	1	5	2	34	17	34	95	
9	Lymphatic Glands		65				22		22	87	
10	Heart	2	32	1	14	2	48	5	48	94	
11	Lungs	1	116	2	33	9	110	12	110	259	
12	Developmental (a) Hernia	2	16	1	1	2	6	5	6	23	
	(b) Other	1	18		8	2	31	3	31	58	
13	Orthopaedic (a) Posture		1		29		19		19	49	
	(b) Feet	7	72	8	64	7	137	22	137	273	
	(c) Other	3	22	4	28	3	72	10	72	122	
14	Nervous System (a) Epilepsy	1	16	1	3	2	9	4	9	28	
	(b) Other		19		9	1	37	1	37	65	
15	Psychological (a) Development		19	1	2	1	22	2	22	43	
	(b) Stability	2	32		1	3	23	5	23	56	
16	Abdomen	3	36	4	30	6	85	13	85	151	
17	Other		12	36	108	94	138	142	138	332	

TABLE A

**PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC
MEDICAL INSPECTIONS**

(excluding dental diseases and infestation
with vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (by year of birth) (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded Part II (3)	Total Individual Pupils (4)
1966 and later	-	-	-
1965	12	51	58
1964	32	74	101
1963	-	-	-
1962	-	1	1
1961	-	-	-
1960	-	-	-
1959	103	157	239
1958	45	69	107
1957	-	-	-
1956	55	78	124
1955 and earlier	47	59	99
Total	294	489	729

TABLE B

OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections..... 780
Number of re-inspections..... 665

TABLE C

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in school by school nurses or other authorised persons.....	36,712
(b) Total number of individual pupils to be found infested.....	1,276
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act 1944).....	1,071
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944).....	24

TABLE B
SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.	Defects or Disease	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		Pupils Requiring treatment	Pupils Requiring Observation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4	Skin.....	301	1
5	Eyes (a) Vision.....	10	3
	(b) Squint.....	-	-
	(c) Other.....	23	3
6	Ears (a) Hearing.....	3	-
	(b) Otitis Media.....	2	-
	(c) Other.....	11	-
7	Nose and Throat.....	7	-
8	Speech.....	2	1
9	Lymphatic Glands.....	3	-
10	Heart.....	-	-
11	Lungs.....	2	-
12	Development (a) Hernia.....	-	-
	(b) Other.....	3	-
13	Orthopaedic (a) Posture.....	-	-
	(b) Feet.....	3	1
	(c) Other.....	12	-
14	Nervous System (a) Epilepsy....	-	-
	(b) Other.....	1	1
15	Psychological (a) Developmental	-	-
	(b) Stability....	3	-
16	Abdomen.....	4	-
17	Other.....	404	21

PART III

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING NURSERY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

TABLE A
EYE DISEASE, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	No. of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint.....	24
Errors of refraction (including squint).	1,355
Total.....	1,379
No. of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed.....	1,337

TABLE B
DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	No. of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment:	
(a) for disease of the ear.....	63
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis.	38
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	110
Received other forms of treatment.....	23
Total.....	234
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids:	
(a) in 1970.....	6
(b) in previous years.....	19

TABLE C

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	No. of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out- patients departments.....	23
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects.....	-
Total.....	23

TABLE D

DISEASES OF THE SKIN

(excluding uncleanliness for which
see Table C of Part I)

	No. of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm (a) Scalp.....	-
(b) body.....	-
Scabies.....	268
Impetigo.....	8
Other Skin diseases.....	301
Total.....	577

TABLE E

CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	No. of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics..	171

TABLE F
SPEECH THERAPY

	No. of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by speech therapists.....	83

TABLE G
OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	No. of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils with minor ailments.....	105
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements.....	-
(c) Pupils who received BCG vaccination.....	1,255
(d) Other than (a), (b), and (c) above.....	-

TABLE H
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

1. Attendances and Treatment

	Ages 5 to 9	Ages 10 & over	Ages 15 & over	Total
First visit.....	2,172	1,443	236	3,851
Subsequent visits.....	959	1,122	252	2,333
Additional courses of treatment commenced.....	165	176	35	376
Fillings in permanent teeth.	1,162	2,186	501	3,849
Fillings in deciduous teeth.	952	15		967
Permanent teeth filled.....	1,101	2,055	461	3,617
Deciduous teeth filled.....	888	15		903
Permanent teeth extracted...	161	441	205	807
Deciduous teeth extracted...	3,487	743		4,230
General anaesthetics.....	1,000	255	31	1,286
Emergencies.....	453	199	47	699

Number of pupils x-rayed.....	137
Prophylaxis.....	247
Teeth otherwise conserved.....	Nil
Number of teeth root filled.....	17
Inlays.....	Nil
Crowns.....	13
Courses of treatment completed.....	4,603

2. Orthodontics

New cases commenced during year.....	27
Cases completed during year.....	17
Cases discontinued during year.....	5
No. of removable appliances fitted.....	28
No. of fixed appliances fitted.....	3
Pupils referred to Hospital Consultant.....	Nil

3. Prosthetics

	Ages 5 to 9	Ages 10 & over	Ages 15 & over	Total
Pupils supplied with F.U. or F.L. first time.....	-	-	1	1
Pupils supplied with other dentures first time.....	1	11	10	22
No. of dentures supplied.....	1	12	14	27

4. Anaesthetics

General anaesthetics administered by dental officers.....	61
--	----

5. Inspections

(a) First inspection at school - No. of pupils	12,093
(b) First inspection at Clinic - No. of pupils	2,359
No. of (a) and (b) found to require treatment.....	7,920
No. of (a) and (b) offered treatment.....	6,816
(c) Pupils re-inspected at school or clinic...	1,993
No. of (c) found to require treatment.....	854

6. Sessions

Sessions devoted to treatment.....	668
Sessions devoted to inspection.....	101
Sessions devoted to dental health education...	26

